

GME DATA BRIEF (NOVEMBER 2020)

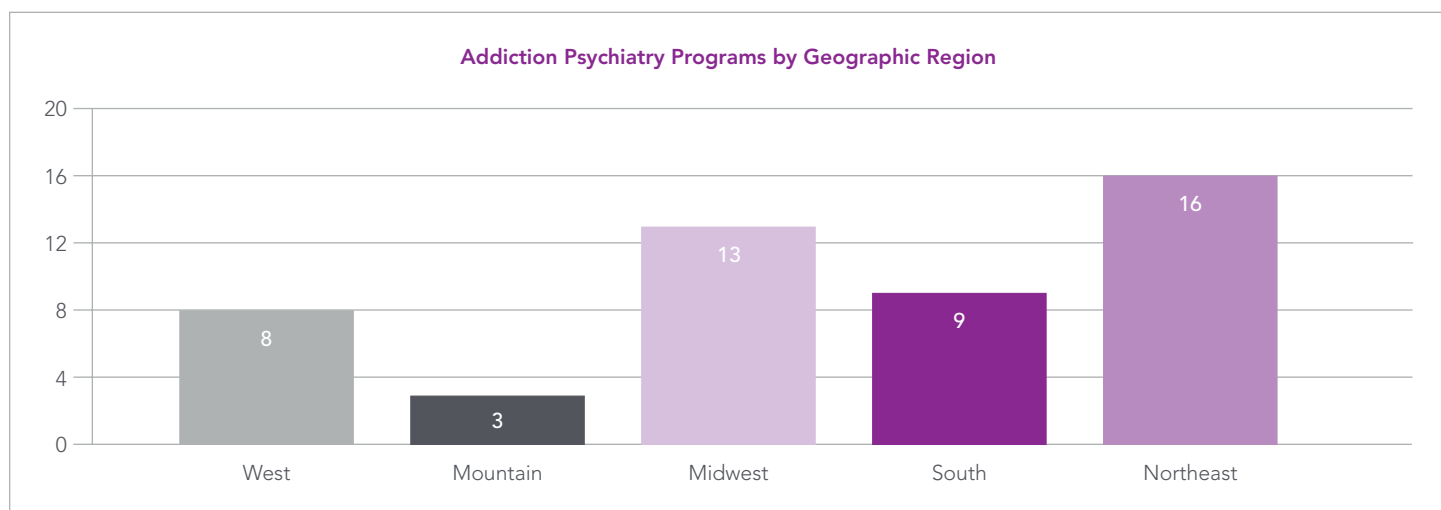
PRESIDENT, KENNETH E. RASKE • 555 WEST 57TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10019 • T (212) 246-7100 • F (212) 262-6350 • WWW.GNYHA.ORG

Graduate medical education (GME) is the system by which graduated medical students become fully trained doctors. This system is responsible for the production of the nation's physician workforce.

This edition of *GME Data Brief* explores training programs that address the nation's need for doctors who can evaluate and treat substance use disorders (SUD). The severity of the opioid epidemic has exposed barriers to care for vulnerable populations suffering from SUD. Examples of national efforts to create a more robust physician workforce that can stem SUD include the Health Resources and Services Administration's National Health Service Corps SUD Workforce program, which provides funding toward qualified student loans for clinicians who agree to provide SUD-related medical care in areas of need, and the Opioid Workforce Act of 2019, bipartisan legislation supported by GNYHA that would increase the number of Medicare-funded residency positions for SUD-related medical specialties. This *GME Data Brief* reports on the number and distribution of three SUD-related training programs—addiction psychiatry, addiction medicine, and pain medicine—across the US. The data clearly shows that the US needs to develop more of these residency programs in all regions of the country in order to address the public health challenge of the opioid epidemic.

THE NATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF SUD-RELATED PROGRAMS¹

The US currently has 49 addiction psychiatry training programs, with the Northeast home to nearly one-third of them. The West has half that number, while the eight states comprising the Mountain region have only three training programs.

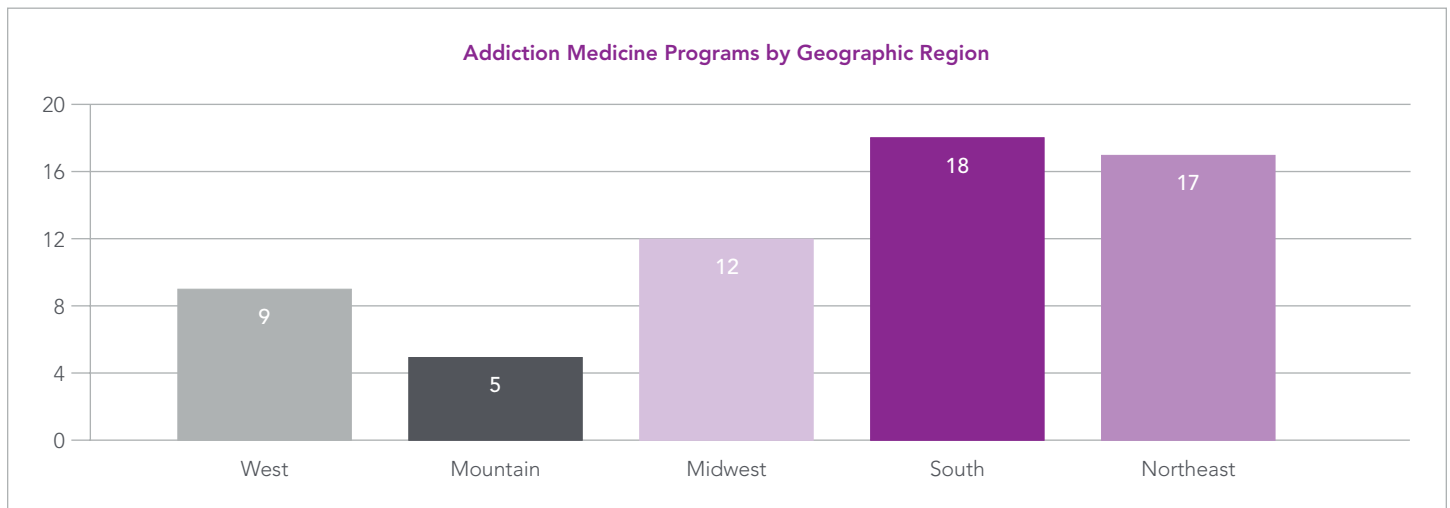


¹ <https://apps.acgme.org/ads/Public/Reports/Report/1>

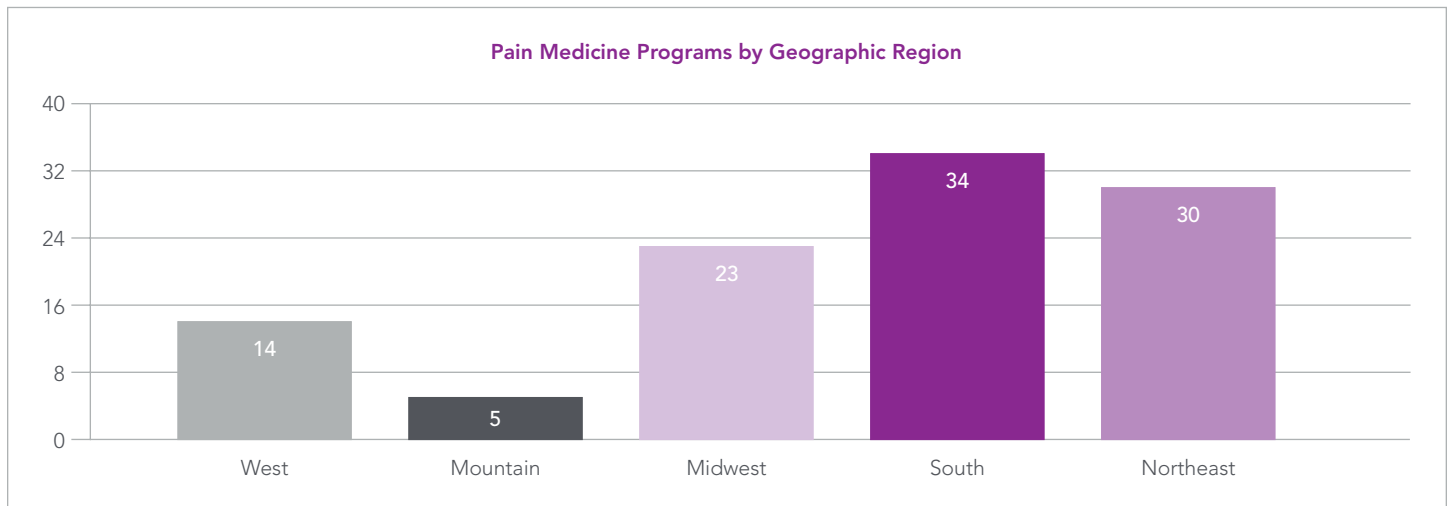


GNYHA is a dynamic, constantly evolving center for health care advocacy and expertise, but our core mission—helping hospitals deliver the finest patient care in the most cost-effective way—never changes.

With 62 addiction medicine residency programs across the US, the South and Northeast regions have nearly the same number (the South has more than twice the population that the Northeast region has, according to the US Census Bureau²). As with addiction psychiatry, the Mountain region has the fewest programs.



The South has the highest number of pain medicine residency programs in the US, and the Northeast has the second highest. Consistent with addiction psychiatry and addiction medicine, the West and Mountain regions have the fewest.



GNYHA is deeply committed to supporting its member teaching hospitals in their mission to train tomorrow's doctors. We devote significant resources to protecting GME reimbursement, including advancing policies and legislation that ensure an adequate future physician workforce and supporting GNYHA members on special projects that enhance the operations and quality of their physician training enterprise.

Future GME Data Brief editions will provide additional details on physician training within different types of organizations and across other specialty areas, and other topics of interest to the GME and broader policy community.

² https://www2.census.gov/geo/pdfs/maps-data/maps/reference/us_regdiv.pdf